

### § 173.23

the possession of the owner or the owner's representative.

[CGD 72-54R, 37 FR 21399, Oct. 7, 1972, as amended by CGD 77-117A, 43 FR 17941, Apr. 27, 1978; CGD 89-048, 54 FR 27002, June 27, 1989]

### § 173.23 Inspection of certificate.

Each person using a vessel to which this part applies shall present the certificate or lease or rental agreement required by § 173.21 to any Federal, State, or local law enforcement officer for inspection at his request.

### § 173.25 Location of certificate of number.

No person may use a vessel to which this part applies unless the certificate or lease or rental agreement required by § 173.21 is carried on board in such a manner that it can be handed to a person authorized under § 173.23 to inspect it.

### § 173.27 Numbers: Display; size; color.

(a) Each number required by § 173.15 must:

(1) Be painted on or permanently attached to each side of the forward half of the vessel except as allowed by paragraph (b) or required by paragraph (c) of this section;

(2) Be in plain vertical block characters of not less than 3 inches in height;

(3) Contrast with the color of the background and be distinctly visible and legible;

(4) Have spaces or hyphens that are equal to the width of a letter other than "I" or a number other than "1" between the letter and number groupings (Example: DC 5678 EF or DC-5678-EF); and

(5) Read from left to right.

(b) When a vessel is used by a manufacturer or by a dealer for testing or demonstrating, the number may be painted on or attached to removable plates that are temporarily but firmly attached to each side of the forward half of the vessel.

(c) On vessels so configured that a number on the hull or superstructure would not be easily visible, the number must be painted on or attached to a backing plate that is attached to the forward half of the vessel so that the

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number is visible from each side of the vessel.

(d) Each number displayed on a tender exempted under § 173.13 must meet the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section and have a space or hyphen that is equal to the width of a letter other than "I" or a number other than "1" between the suffix and the number. (Example: DC 5678 EF 1 or DC-5678-EF-1.)

### § 173.29 Notification to issuing authority.

A person whose name appears as the owner of a vessel on a certificate of number shall, within 15 days, notify the issuing authority in a manner prescribed by the issuing authority of:

(a) Any change in his address;

(b) The theft or recovery of the vessel;

(c) The loss or destruction of a valid certificate of number;

(d) The transfer of all or part of his interest in the vessel; and

(e) The destruction or abandonment of the vessel.

### § 173.31 Surrender of certificate of number.

A person whose name appears as the owner of a vessel on a certificate of number shall surrender the certificate in a manner prescribed by the issuing authority within 15 days after it becomes invalid under paragraph (b), (c), (d), or (e) of § 173.77.

### § 173.33 Removal of number.

The person whose name appears on a certificate of number as the owner of a vessel shall remove the number and validation sticker from the vessel when:

(a) The vessel is documented by the Coast Guard;

(b) The certificate of number is invalid under paragraph (c) of § 173.77; or

(c) The vessel is no longer principally used in the State where the certificate was issued.

### § 173.35 Coast Guard validation sticker.

No person may use a vessel except a vessel exempted in § 173.13 that has a number issued by the Coast Guard unless it has the validation sticker issued

with the certificate of number displayed within 6 inches of the number.

### Subpart C—Casualty and Accident Reporting

#### § 173.51 Applicability.

(a) This subpart applies to each vessel used on waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and on the high seas beyond the territorial seas for vessels owned in the United States that:

- (1) Is used by its operator for recreational purposes; or
- (2) Is required to be numbered under this part.

(b) This subpart does not apply to a vessel subject to inspection under Title 46 U.S.C. Chapter 33.

[CDG 72-54R, 37 FR 21399, Oct. 7, 1972, as amended by CDG 84-099, 52 FR 47533, Dec. 14, 1987]

#### § 173.53 Immediate notification of death or disappearance.

(a) When, as a result of an occurrence that involves a vessel or its equipment, a person dies or disappears from a vessel, the operator shall, without delay, by the quickest means available, notify the nearest reporting authority listed in Appendix A of this part of:

- (1) The date, time, and exact location of the occurrence;
- (2) The name of each person who died or disappeared;
- (3) The number and name of the vessel; and
- (4) The names and addresses of the owner and operator.

(b) When the operator of a vessel cannot give the notice required by paragraph (a) of this section, each person on board the vessel shall notify the casualty reporting authority or determine that the notice has been given.

#### § 173.55 Report of casualty or accident.

(a) The operator of a vessel shall submit the casualty or accident report prescribed in § 173.57 to the reporting authority prescribed in § 173.59 when, as a result of an occurrence that involves the vessel or its equipment:

- (1) A person dies;
- (2) A person is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid;

(3) Damage to the vessel and other property totals more than \$500 or there is a complete loss of the vessel; or

(4) A person disappears from the vessel under circumstances that indicate death or injury.

(b) A report required by this section must be made:

(1) Within 48 hours of the occurrence if a person dies within 24 hours of the occurrence;

(2) Within 48 hours of the occurrence if a person is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid, or disappears from a vessel; and

(3) Within 10 days of the occurrence or death if an earlier report is not required by this paragraph.

(c) When the operator of a vessel cannot submit the casualty or accident report required by paragraph (a) of this section, the owner shall submit the casualty or accident report.

[CGD 72-54R, 37 FR 21399, Oct. 7, 1972, as amended by CGD 76-155, 44 FR 5308, Jan. 25, 1979; CGD 82-015, 54 FR 5610, Feb. 6, 1989]

#### § 173.57 Casualty or accident report.

Each report required by § 173.55 must be in writing, dated upon completion, and signed by the person who prepared it and must contain, if available, at least the following information about the casualty or accident:

- (a) The numbers and names of each vessel involved.
- (b) The name and address of each owner of each vessel involved.
- (c) The name of the nearest city or town, the county, the State, and the body of water.
- (d) The time and date the casualty or accident occurred.
- (e) The location on the water.
- (f) The visibility, weather, and water conditions.
- (g) The estimated air and water temperatures.
- (h) The name, address, age, or date of birth, telephone number, vessel operating experience, and boating safety training of the operator making the report.
- (i) The name and address of each operator of each vessel involved.
- (j) The number of persons on board or towed on skis by each vessel.
- (k) The name, address, and date of birth of each person injured or killed.